

# BLENDON WOODS

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Neighborhood News • Spring 2019

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- BWCA looking for Volunteers
- Community Reminders
- Trash, yard waste & recycling calendar



## Help keep Blendon Woods Clean

Join us for a monthly neighborhood clean-up in the evening of the third Wednesday each month.

Why help? We live in a pretty area, and we should do everything we can to **keep it that way!** Appearance is a significant reflection of an area's safety.

This year, we'll continue to work on the entrances (Broadview & Panorama and Broadview & Woodville Dr.) and Wolf Run.

### To learn more

Check our Facebook page (search: Blendon Woods Civic Association) or email [alison.m.colvin@gmail.com](mailto:alison.m.colvin@gmail.com).

Thank you to everyone for your help!



### CLEANUPS

Third Wednesday at  
7:00 p.m. each month

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| » May 15  | » Aug. 21  |
| » June 19 | » Sept. 18 |
| » July 17 | » Oct. 16  |

Meet at 5417 Wolf Run

Check Facebook in case  
of changes in dates

## Thinking about going solar?

### BY CHUCK LYND

My wife, Sheila, and I moved from Delaware, Ohio, to Blendon Estates in August, 2017. We have been making improvements — new windows, fenced-in yard, some new flooring, and now we are thinking about solar panels. We installed solar panels on the roof of our all-electric home in Delaware in 2010 and enjoyed the super low energy bills.

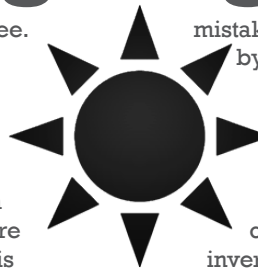
We had a "net metering" agreement with AEP that allowed us to generate more energy than we needed during the summer and send the excess back to the grid. Our bills were zero during the summer and increased gradually in the fall to higher bills in the winter months and then lower again in the spring. We didn't have a battery back-up so when the AEP grid went down, so did we.

Overall it was a great experience and since we had a relatively new roof, the

system was maintenance-free.

We even had a modem in the garage that connected the inverter (solar panels generate DC electricity that has to be converted to AC in the home) to the PC in my office where free software displays how much energy is created by the panels. This is very handy, because it makes reporting a breeze and the numbers can be used to sell energy to third parties who purchase what are called "renewable energy credits." I bought a used 2013 Nissan Leaf from Germain (now our neighbor) and while this all-electric car is not state-of-the-art, I drive it every day and just plug it in a regular 110 outlet in my garage overnight.

Sheila and I learned a lot from the experience, and now we would like to share it with our neighbors. We made a



mistake, for example, when we financed by taking out a Home Equity loan from our credit union. It's much smarter to finance through EcoLink, a state of Ohio program that can reduce the interest by at least a couple of points. The panels keep getting cheaper, simpler to install and the inverters are more functional. Today, there are companies to install a system for you, lower your bill, and charge no upfront costs at all. The caveat is that the company owns the system, not the homeowner.

If you're thinking about solar, please email me at [Chuck.Lynd@gmail.com](mailto:Chuck.Lynd@gmail.com), or call/text my cell at 614-354-6172. Sheila and I will organize a Solar 101-type event to answer questions and discuss various options, local installation companies, etc.

Please know that I'm not a dealer, and we've no interest other than our passion to see more solar energy in our community.

## FIND US ONLINE

facebook

» [facebook.com/groups](https://www.facebook.com/groups/blendonwoods)  
Search "Blendon Woods  
Civic Association"

Nextdoor

» [blendonwoodsestates.](https://www.nextdoor.com/blendonwoodsestates)  
[nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)



Neighborhood Link  
Resource

» [neighborhoodlink.com/Blendon\\_Woods](https://neighborhoodlink.com/Blendon_Woods)

> Email Susan if interested in helping out: [nichols26family@gmail.com](mailto:nichols26family@gmail.com) <

# Areas in need of volunteer Reps

## AREA REP DUTIES:

- » Deliver our newsletters
- » Connect residents and Board Members
- » Help with the Annual Membership Drive
- » Attend meetings or send another resident to represent the area.

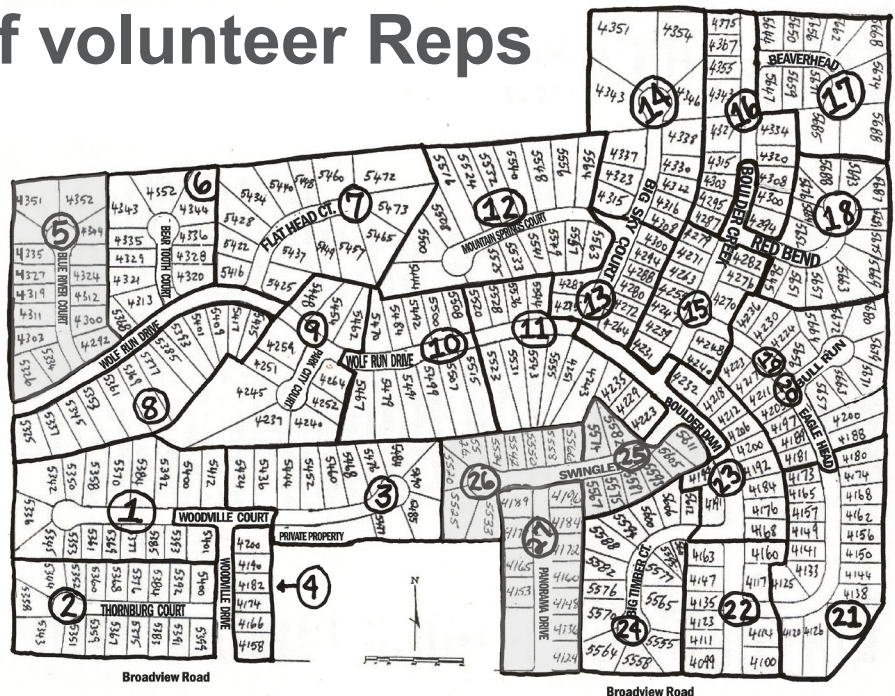
## BWCA Areas in need of a Rep

You do not have to live on the street, but it helps to be nearby.

- » 5. **Blue River Ct.** - 16 homes
- » 25/26. **Swingley** - 17 homes
- » 27. **Panorama Dr.** - 11 homes

## New Area Reps

**Flat Head Court** - Mark & Bethany Warner  
**Boulder Dam Curve** - Eliza Writsel



## BWCA OPEN POSITIONS

# Consider volunteering to learn more about your community

Our civic association is in need of new volunteers. This is a great chance to get to know the people around you, and help keep Blenden Woods a great place to live. There is not a huge time commitment, but there IS the potential for a big payoff!

## Social Committee

A social committee volunteer writes and disseminates press releases, issues notices and flyers to the membership and handles correspondence. This person may also help plan/coordinate social events throughout the year and would get help from other BWCA volunteers.

## Northland Community Council Development Committee

We have one rep and need one alternate. This rep can take turns attending meetings with current rep Pam Kutsick or one can sub when the other can't go.

The NCC Development Committee Meetings promote general welfare, proper growth and desirable development of the member organizations and its residents.

Meets: 6:30 p.m. the last Wednesday each month, at Northland Performing Arts Center, 4411 Tamarack Boulevard in Northland Village.

## Northland Community Council General Meetings

Two alternate representatives are needed for NCC General Meetings. Reps may take turns attending meetings, or substitute when one can't attend.

The NCC General Membership Meetings are held to communicate the interest of the residents and member organizations to the government officials, councils and boards.

The NCC meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Friendship Village, 5800 Forest Hills Blvd. Columbus, 43229.

# Keep storm drains clear of leaves and debris for Spring rain

Our quality of life and health is greatly dependent upon the quality of our water. Fish and other wildlife also rely on the responsible stewardship of our natural resources. Activities in our homes, yards and communities have an effect on the quality of our water supplies.

By learning about this connection, we can protect our waterways through prevention of what is known as "non-point source pollution." This refers to the fact that surface water, through rain or melting snow, tends to pick up contaminants as it flows through a watershed. A watershed is an area of land which drains to a common basin, such as a stream or river.

Prevention of pollutants entering our

streams and rivers is of critical importance to our community and our habitats.

If your home has a drainage ditch or swale, do not fill it in. That includes the easement area of your home. It is your responsibility to maintain the easement area next to the road. Do not build anything over it, and please keep it free of litter.

Courtesy of [columbus.gov/Templates/Detail.aspx?id=38459](http://columbus.gov/Templates/Detail.aspx?id=38459)

## SHOUTOUT

Thanks to Jim Williams for stepping into the BWCA's Vice President role. Jim has been a vital help with the Mystic Pines development that has caused water runoff issues.

## Storm Drain Marker Program

Consider getting involved in "No Dumping, Drains to Rivers" storm drain marking project, part of the "We All Live Downstream" water pollution prevention public education program.

By participating, you can help raise awareness that dumping trash, debris or hazardous waste into storm drains contributes to water

pollution and endangers wildlife.

For more information on this program, email [DOSD@columbus.gov](mailto:DOSD@columbus.gov).



## PAID YOUR DUES?

The majority, \$15, supports the Snow Removal Fund. We spent \$3,400 on snow removal this past winter and have \$4780.99 left in the Snow Removal Fund.

The other \$5 of dues goes to the General Fund, which includes:

- Northland Community Council Dues
- Newsletter & Directory
- Activities like Pumpkin Drop

### Households who paid dues

46% in 2018    51% in 2017  
40% in 2016    56% in 2015

Please send 2019 payments to your Area Rep or send a \$20 check payable to "Blendon Woods Civic Association" to:

**Colleen Krupp**  
4328 Bear Tooth Ct.  
Columbus, OH 43230

## ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER!

Issues Available 2X/year

**Black & White Prices**

(color: multiple price by two)

**Full:** \$50    **Quarter** \$12.50

**Half:** \$25    **Biz Card** (3.5" x 2"): \$5

Email Newsletter Editor Alison Colvin:  
alison.m.colvin@gmail.com

## Calling volunteers: Let's get to know each other!

We're planning a great year in our neighborhood and need your help!

### SUMMER PICNIC

The BWCA is looking for volunteers to help organize a picnic this summer. When one person steps up to lead the effort, others can pitch in, too.

Tasks include:

- choosing a date
- reserving a location
- gathering RSVPs

### JULY 4TH PARADE

Help plan a parade for the kids on July 4th. It typically runs down Wolf Run and Boulder Dam, toward Broadview and ends at a neighbor's house.

Tasks include:

- securing police/fire participation
- identifying start and end points
- planning refreshments

### GARAGE SALE

Want to help organize our garage sale? Volunteers can help identify a date and be a contact for others. The BWCA will help advertise, provide yard signs and reimburse expenses.

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 6 is the designated 2019 National Night Out and is designed to:

- promote police-community partnerships
- heighten crime, drug and violence awareness
- generate support for anti-crime efforts
- build neighborhood unity by sending a message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back

Volunteers can help by being a point of contact, registering our neighborhood and promoting the event to our neighbors.

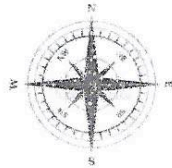
"If you've never participated, it's a great event to get to know others in your community and have fun," said Council member Zach Klein, chair of City Council's Public Safety Committee.

"And, it's a great opportunity for our law-enforcement officers to strengthen their relationships in the community and build new ones and keep Columbus as the best place to live, work, play and raise a family."

Take an active stance against criminals and join your friends and neighbors in the fight against crime.

If you're interested in helping, email Susan Nichols, [nichols26family@gmail.com](mailto:nichols26family@gmail.com)

**Direct: 330-304-9015**



**PamKutsick@gmail.com**

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## Upcoming collections

» We are Gray. Enter your address on:  
311.columbus.gov/colorday

Wed.	May 8	Trash
Fri.	May 10	Recycling & Yard Waste
Wed.	May 15	Trash
Wed.	May 22	Trash
Fri.	May 24	Recycling & Yard Waste
*Thurs.*	May 30	Trash
Thurs.	June 6	Trash
Fri.	June 7	Recycling & Yard Waste
Thurs.	June 13	Trash
Thurs.	June 20	Trash
Fri.	June 21	Recycling & Yard Waste
Thurs.	June 27	Trash
*Fri.*	July 5	Trash
*Sat.*	July 6	Recycling & Yard Waste
Fri.	July 12	Trash
Fri.	July 19	Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste
Fri.	July 26	Trash
Fri.	August 2	Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste
Fri.	August 9	Trash
Fri.	August 16	Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste
Fri.	August 23	Trash
Fri.	Aug. 30	Trash, Recycling & Yard Waste
*Mon.*	Sept. 9	Trash
Fri.	Sept. 13	Recycling & Yard Waste
Mon.	Sept. 16	Trash
Mon.	Sept. 23	Trash
Fri.	Sept. 27	Recycling & Yard Waste
Mon.	Sept. 30	Trash
Mon.	Oct. 7	Trash
Fri.	Oct. 11	Recycling & Yard Waste
Mon.	Oct. 14	Trash
Mon.	Oct. 21	Trash
Fri.	Oct. 25	Recycling & Yard Waste
Mon.	Oct. 28	Trash
Mon.	Nov. 4	Trash
Fri.	Nov. 8	Recycling & Yard Waste
*Tues.*	Nov. 12	Trash
Tues.	Nov. 19	Trash
Fri.	Nov. 22	Recycling & Yard Waste

\* Indicates day of the week change

## Reminders

### Watch Your Speed

Help everyone stay safe and watch your speed while driving through the neighborhood.



### Yard Waste

Containers may be put at the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the day before pick-up per city code. Make sure to bring your bins back in after the yard waste is picked up, too. Yard waste is only picked up every 2 weeks.

An alternative to disposing of yard waste is to mulch the grass back into your lawn rather than bag it.

Simply put, grass clippings are good for lawns, because they turn into natural fertilizer. When you leave your clippings in your lawn, you give them the chance to decompose, releasing water and nutrients back into your lawn's soil.

*Courtesy of "Are Grass Clippings Good for My Lawn" Lawn Doctor Blog- Jun 8, 2016*

### Pet Waste

Remove pet waste from your yard and place it in the trash, bagged, or flush smaller quantities down the toilet. Animal waste contributes to surface and ground water bacteria.

### Don't Litter

Trash left along our roadways, ditches and stream banks washes into our waterways through rain and melting snow. Not only is littering illegal, it is an eyesore which can endanger wildlife and allow stagnant water to breed mosquitoes. Debris can also block drain inlets, preventing efficient drainage.

### Party Etiquette

Now that Spring is here and summer's soon to follow, please be considerate of your neighbors when planning outdoor activities. For parties, barbecues, 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations, etc., please make sure any loud noise and music is finished between 10:30-11:00pm. It also helps to grow the neighborhood by inviting your neighbors to your celebrations.

## Do you invite theft from your car?

Last Spring there were several cars in the neighborhood that had small items, change, etc. stolen from unlocked cars in their driveways and on the street.

Theft from parked cars is one of the most common complaints received by police in residential neighborhoods. According to U.S. Department of Justice statistics, these types of crimes make up some 36 percent of all larcenies reported to the police.

Crimes in general and property crimes in particular tend to be under reported to authorities. As a result, the problem may be worse than it appears in statistics reported by police.

In contrast, nearly all thefts of cars are reported to the authorities, because of the significant monetary loss and insurance company reporting requirements.

Because suburban residential areas are relatively safe and quiet, residents can become complacent about car security. They may leave their car doors unlocked or the keys in the ignition.

Often times, their homes exterior lighting is wholly inadequate.

Overly tall shrubbery and other brush on the premises can provide thieves with cover. An entire neighborhood filled with unlocked cars and poorly lit homes, with plenty of cover, is an inviting scene for a thief.

Thefts of and from cars in suburban residential areas generally occur at night. This is because it is the time most cars are present in these areas, as well as the fact that darkness provides cover for the thieves. In residential areas that contain multi-family apartment complexes, parking lots can be vulnerable to thefts during the day, because there are many people using the lots, thus providing anonymity to the offender. Some special events that draw large numbers of vehicles to an area also generate high volumes of thefts from cars.

*Courtesy of [popcenter.asu.edu/content/thefts-and-cars-residential-streets-driveways-0](http://popcenter.asu.edu/content/thefts-and-cars-residential-streets-driveways-0)*

### QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? WRITE US!

Send all constructive criticism/compliments via email to BWCA newsletter editor: Alison Colvin [alison.m.colvin@gmail.com](mailto:alison.m.colvin@gmail.com) Include subject: BWCA